EXTENSION SERVICE U. S. Dept. Agr.

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U.S. Department of Agricuture

Reserve

SUGGESTIONS FOR EXTENSION PROCEDURE WITH THE 1942 FARM DEFENSE PROGRAM*

This is Agriculture's No. 1 Defense job. All agencies of the Department will give it priority over regular programs which may be making a lesser contribution to Defense, even to the extent of transferring personnel to this work, if necessary, to get the job well done.

Extension Responsibilities

- 1. Inform all the people, prior to developing and signing the "farm plans," concerning the "need" for this increased production. Visitations to obtain farm-plan signatures will begin about October 15.
- 2. Make available to all agencies subject matter concerning practices that will accomplish production objectives. This will unify the subject matter used.
- 3. Assist in training Triple-A committeemen who are to obtain "farm plans" to help the farmer fit his farm situation to immediate defense needs.
- 4. Plan the post-"farm plan" canvass campaign to popularize the essential farm practices that will enable farm people to achieve county. State. and National production goals and meet home food needs.

Although emphasis will be placed on responsibilities "2" and "4" throughout the year, the immediate job relates to "1" and "3", for which the time available is all too short. It is important that the entire Extension staff be used in the most efficient manner. This will require special planning, both of subject matter and procedures, and use of the most effective techniques at our command in getting people to practice the best production methods. In some instances, diversion of personnel from their regular work may be necessary.

Procedure

- 1. Hold conference of State extension staff immediately following regional conferences, to prepare suggestions concerning how Extension can best aid the U.S.D.A. Defense Board in planning and carrying out the Farm Defense Program.
- Plan for participation of State supervisors and specialists in such State, district, and county conferences, as will assure rapid dissemination of information concerning "need" to all farm people.

^{*} Prepared for distribution to State Extension Directors at Regional Farm Defense Program conferences. September 1941.

- 3. Plan cooperation of supervisors and specialists with Triple-A in training community committeemen to obtain "farm plans." To effectively carry out Nos. 1 and 3 listed under Extension Responsibilities, within the time limits, may require use of the entire State extension staff.
- 4. Adjust Extension programs so that all members of the staff will make major contribution to assisting farmers in achieving county, State, and National production goals and meet home food needs.
- 5. Continue preparation of leaflets, circular letters, news stories, visual aids, and other materials, which were so effective in the Food for Defense program.